

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-10 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

MC-02 ACDA-05 EB-07 OIC-02 /105 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0442

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONGEN CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1742

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SC, WAS

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL AND NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 120774, (B) USUN 1732

SUMMARY: AFRICAN TREND TOWARD INTRODUCING CHAPTER 7

RESOLUTION GAINING MOMENTUM.

1. FOLLOWING INFORMAL SC CONSULTATIONS AFTERNOON MAY 23, AM BENNETT MET PRIVATELY WITH SC PRESIDENT JACKSON OF GUYANA TO DISCUSS HANDLING OF NAMIBIA IN SC. BENNETT MADE POINTS OF PARAGRAPH 3 REFTEL A WITH EXPLANATION THAT WE KNEW AFRICAN GROUP AND OTHERS WERE BEGINNING SERIES OF MEETINGS ON DRAFT AND WE WANTED SC PRESIDENT TO BE AWARE OF OUR VIEWS WHEN HE WAS CONSULTED BY OTHERS WITH RESPECT TO DISCUSSION OF ISSUE AND LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION. JACKSON EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND THEN ASKED HOW WE WOULD FEEL ABOUT RESOLUTION LANGUAGE
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INVOLVING AN ARMS EMBARGO. BENNETT EMPHASIZED US DOES

NOT PERMIT ARMS SHIPMENTS TO SOUTH AFRICA AND JACKSON
ACKNOWLEDGED THIS WAS SO. BENNETT COMMENTED THAT WE WERE
NOT AT THIS TIME READY TO TALK ABOUT SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF
A RESOLUTION; HOWEVER, SITUATION IN NAMIBIA WAS NOT IN ANY
COMMON SENSE VIEW A THREAT TO PEACE. IT WAS OUR STRONG VIEW
THAT INVOKING CHAPTER 7 WOULD NOT SERVE OUR COMMON PURPOSE
OF KEEPING PRESSURE ON SAG AND ENCOURAGING CONTINUED EVOLUTION
OF SAG POLICY ON NAMIBIA IN FAVORABLE DIRECTION.

RESORT TO CHAPTER 7 WOULD, IN OUR VIEW, NOT BE EFFECTIVE
AND COULD IN FACT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE BY CAUSING VORSTER
AND HIS GOVERNMENT TO DRAW UP INTO DEFENSIVE POSITION
AND MOVE THINGS BACKWARD.

2. UK PERM REP RICHARD WAS HAVING SIMULTANEOUS CONVERSATION
WITH SALIM OF TANZANIA, WHO ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF MANDATORY
ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. OUR READING IS THAT SALIM
DOES NOT BELIEVE CHAPTER 7 ACTION WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE, BUT
DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO STEM RISING TIDE OF RHETORIC IN
AFRICAN GROUP. POSITION OF SALIM'S OWN FOREIGN MINISTER,
WHO WILL COME TO NY FOR DEBATE, IS UNCERTAIN.

3. IN ADDITION TO MALACELA, WE ALREADY EXPECT
ARIKPO OF NIGERIA, MWAANGA OF ZAMBIA AND (TO SERVE AS
PRESIDENT OF SC UNTIL END OF MAY) RAMPHAL OF GUYANA
AND SWAPO HEAD NUJOMA. THERE WILL DOUBTLESS BE OTHER
FONMINS.

4. OUR INITIAL APPROACHES TO AFRICANS IN CORRIDORS
PER PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3 OF TEFTEL A HAD BEEN FORTHRIGHTLY
REBUFFED BY PERM REPS, OF NIGERIA, TANZANIA,
SENEGAL, SOMALIA AND CAMEROON. EACH ASSERTS WITH VARYING
VIGOR, THAT MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO MUST BE
SOUGHT; IF WESTERN POWERS WISH TO VETO, THAT IS THEIR
PRIVILEGE. EACH FELT VORSTER SPEECH TO BE VERY AMBIGUOUS.

5. DURING AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY CEREMONY AT UN MORNING
MAY 23, ZAMBIAN PERM REP BANDA, SPEAKING AS PRESIDENT OF
COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, SAID THAT VORSTER STATEMENT WAS "EX-
TREMELY CONFUSING." HE ADDED THAT CAREFUL STUDY IS BEING
MADE IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING ACCUSED OF NOT UNDERSTANDING IT.
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UN CONTROL OF NAMIBIA, HOWEVER, WAS NECESSARY. BANDA SAID HE
HOPED THAT BEFORE UPCOMING SC MEETING, THOSE VOTING FOR SC
RESOLUTION 366 WOULD AGREE TO SUPPORT MEXT MOVES NEEDED TO
ASSURE CHANGE. SC MUST TAKE UP ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, HE CON-
TINUED, AND ACT ACCORDINGLY. (IRONICALLY, NEW ZEALAND REP,
SPEAKING AS WEO CHAIRMAN FOR MONTH, SAID AT SAME CEREMONY, IN
TEXT WHICH WAS NOT CLEARED BY ALL WEO MEMBERS, THAT UN "MUST
CONTINUE AND INTENSIFY" PRESSURES ON SOUTH AFRICA CONCERNING

NAMIBIA.)

6. WE HAVE BECOME SOMEWHAT CONCERNED THIS AFTERNOON LEST
BRITISH AND FRENCH DRAFT APART Owing TO DIVERGING ESTIMATES OF
AFRICAN MOOD. THE FRENCH ARE EVEN MORE PESSIMISTIC THAN WE ARE ABOUT
PROSPECT FOR DISSUADING AFRICANS FROM CHAPTER 7 EFFORT, WHILE
BRITISH PROFESS REMARKABLE OPTIMISM. IN LATE AFTERNOON CON-
VERSATIONS WITH US AND BRITISH, FRENCH EMPHASIZED THAT THEY ARE
NOT AUTHORIZED AT THIS STAGE TO MAKE OUTRIGHT THREAT TO
VOTE AGAINST ANY AND ALL CHAPTER 7 LANGUAGE.

7. AT SC CONSULTATIONS MAY 23 LARGEY FOCUSED ON UNDOF
REMOVAL, SC PRESIDENT JACKSON OF GUYANA ANNOUNCED THAT THERE
WAS UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT ON BEGINNING NAMIBIA DEBATE MAY 30.

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